

Meeting Date: 06/25/2013  
Resolution #: 06/85/2013

### **Village of Sleepy Hollow Reservoir Expansion Environmental Review and Public Hearing**

WHEREAS, the Village of Sleepy Hollow is a duly incorporated municipal body located in Westchester County, New York; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 1926 the Village of North Tarrytown (now Sleepy Hollow) did enter into an easement agreement with John D. Rockefeller for the creation of a municipal reservoir located in the Town of Mt. Pleasant, New York; and

WHEREAS, the Village's existing reservoir has a capacity of approximately 800,000 gallons, which heretofore had been adequate to serve the water supply needs of the Village of Sleepy Hollow; and

WHEREAS, during the course of environmental reviews for various projects located within the Village, the Westchester County Department of Health (DOH) indicated that the Village's water supply storage system was inadequate and needed to be expanded to meet current Health Department standards; and

WHEREAS, beginning in the spring of 2002, the Village did initiate a series of engineering studies to evaluate the eventual size and supply requirements of the Village's water supply system; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2002, the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sleepy Hollow (the Village Board) did circulate a Notice of Intent to Act as Lead Agency for a proposed municipal water supply improvement project; and

WHEREAS, the municipal water supply improvement program includes the construction of an expanded reservoir storage system, enhancement to the water transmission system and upgrading the Village's pump station (the Proposed Action); and

WHEREAS, the Village Board would be the primary funding agency and approval authority for the proposed municipal water supply improvement project; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2003, the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sleepy Hollow did declare themselves to be the Lead Agency for the environmental review of the proposed municipal water supply improvement project; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2003, the Lead Agency, based on the information presented in the environmental assessment form and supporting documentation, declared that the Proposed Action may have a significant effect on the environment, and that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will need to be prepared; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2004, the Lead Agency received a preliminary DEIS that was reviewed for completeness with respect to the scope, content and adequacy of the information presented therein;  
and

WHEREAS on August 10, 2004, the Lead Agency did declare the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to be complete and adequate for circulation and public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency did hold a public hearing on the DEIS on September 21, 2004 in which all members of the public wishing to be heard will be provided an opportunity, and a comment period for written comments held open until October 12, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency commenced with the preparation of responses to the comments raised including the commission of separate reports related to utility design, ecological assessment and visual simulations; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency did consider two additional alternative locations for a municipal reservoir, including a location at the Phelps Memorial Hospital and analyzed those locations in the FEIS; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the FEIS document, the Village Board, on November 7, 2006 did accept the FEIS as complete and adequate for public review and comment; and

WHEREAS, on November 28, 2006 the Village Board did hold a public hearing on the FEIS; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2006, the Village board did issue Environmental Findings that selected a location at the Phelps Memorial Hospital site as a preferred location; and

WHEREAS, the Village did engage in negotiations with the Hospital regarding an easement and did evaluate in more detail the anticipated costs, both one-time capital improvements and long term annual costs, of creating a new water distribution system in the Village that required the creation of separate high and low pressure systems dividing the Village; and

WHEREAS, based on an evaluation prepared by the Village's consulting engineer, the Village Board has requested that additional alternatives be considered, including a reuse of the existing easement area for the excavation to accommodate a properly sized reservoir; and

WHEREAS, the Village did discuss with representatives of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF) the possibility of locating a new reservoir facility off of Lake Road on the grounds of the Kykuit Estate; and

WHEREAS, the Village did cause to be prepared a conceptual site plan that met the engineering requirements necessary to have a system that was compatible with the Village's existing reservoir; and

WHEREAS, the Village and the RBF and their representatives have declared their intent to enter into a long term agreement to locate a new reservoir facility off of Lake Road on the Kykuit Estate; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board, acting as Lead Agency, under SEQRA, has caused to be prepared additional Environmental Documentation for review by other Interested and Involved Agencies and members of the public prior to the Village Board making a decision to fund the proposed project; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Village Board authorizes the VHB, acting as the Village's Planning Consultant, to prepare a submission to the Town of Mt. Pleasant for Special Permit as required under Section 218-55 of the Town Code; and be it further

RESOLVED, that prior to making a decision as to the new location or funding, the Village Board will hold a public hearing on July 9, 2013, in which all members of the public will be provided an opportunity to be heard and that a written comment period on the Environmental Documentation will be held open until July 12, 2013.

**Moved:** Trustee Wompa

**Seconded** by: Deputy Mayor Lobato-Church

**Vote:** 5-0